



## South Dakota Department of the Military South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs



# 235TH SOLDIERS COMPLETE TRAINING AND DEPART FOR AFGHANISTAN

One-hundred and twenty-four soldiers from the 235th Military Police Company, of Sioux Falls and Rapid City, departed for Afghanistan on Sunday, March 17, as they left for a nine-month deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Senior leaders from the state, 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade and 139th Brigade Support Battalion visited the unit prior to their departure.

The South Dakota Army National Guard unit departed Fort Bliss after completing six weeks of mobilization training. The unit trained on mission specific tasks and battle drills and received additional training on internment operations and riot control.

"I am proud of what my soldiers have accomplished at Fort Bliss. They have given me 110 percent every day," said Capt. Thadius Schmit, 235th commander. "Morale is great and we are ready to go."

The 235th has been preparing for this mission for more than a year. This will be the third deployment for the unit in the past 10 years. Eleven of the 124 soldiers currently deploying with the unit were on the first two deployments as well.

The unit's exceptional completion of their training at Fort Bliss brought direct recognition and commendation from the mobilization brigade at the U.S. Army post. The 235th successfully deployed 100 percent of their soldiers and completed 100 percent of their mobilization training; including a 98 percent first-time "go" on their M-9 pistol qualification.



235th Military Police Company  
South Dakota Army National Guard  
Fort Bliss, TX 17 March 2013

### *Inside this issue:*

Sioux Falls Vets Center Open House	2
MJF State Veterans Home Update	2
Boeve is Back	3
USS South Dakota	3
Upcoming Events	4

## SIoux FALLS VET CENTER SCHEDULES OPEN HOUSE

It's official, the Sioux Falls Vet Center has moved. Their new address is 3200 W. 49th Street in Sioux Falls. The phone number remains the same — 605-330-4552.

They will be hosting an "open house" on Wednesday, May 15, from 11:00 am—2:00 pm.



## STATE VETERANS HOME NEWS



Residents at the Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home have had a very busy month and have even found some great opportunities to enjoy the spring weather.

Dr. Alison Levitt once said, "Good food is wise medicine." That being the case, the residents at the MJFS Veterans Home are darn healthy — During

March they had a chili/soup luncheon, a steak night, a homemade corned beef and cabbage dinner, and trips to the Fall River Bakery, Famous Dave's and the Japanese Steakhouse.

When the connoisseurs are done sampling fine cuisine, they can be found enjoying some square dancing, Bingo, sing-a-longs, Pinochle, Whist, Cribbage, Spades, Texas Hold 'Em, Liverpool Rummy, Hearts, Bowling/Wii Bowling, Mexican Train Dominoes, Horseshoes, Yahtzee, Keno, Ladies Checkers and crafts.

There is no question that the residents are kept busy, but no matter how busy they are – they still are anxiously awaiting for the move into their new home!!!!



## BOEVE IS BACK

Every office is fortunate to have a “go to person.” In our Sioux Falls Claims Office, that “go to” person is Regina Boeve. She’s a true believer that dedication is not what others expect of her, but it is what she gives to others.

Regina just recently returned to work after taking nine weeks of leave to enjoy the birth of her son Liam Gerhard Boeve. Liam was born January 30th, the birthday of his Great-Grandpa Gerhard, who was a World War II veteran. Liam joins his sister Isabella (3 1/2 years old).

Regina is glad to be back to work. She enjoys her co-workers; their team spirit and their commitment to South Dakota’s veterans.

If you get a chance, pick up the phone and give her a call and let her know you missed her! “WELCOME BACK REGINA! You were missed!!!!”

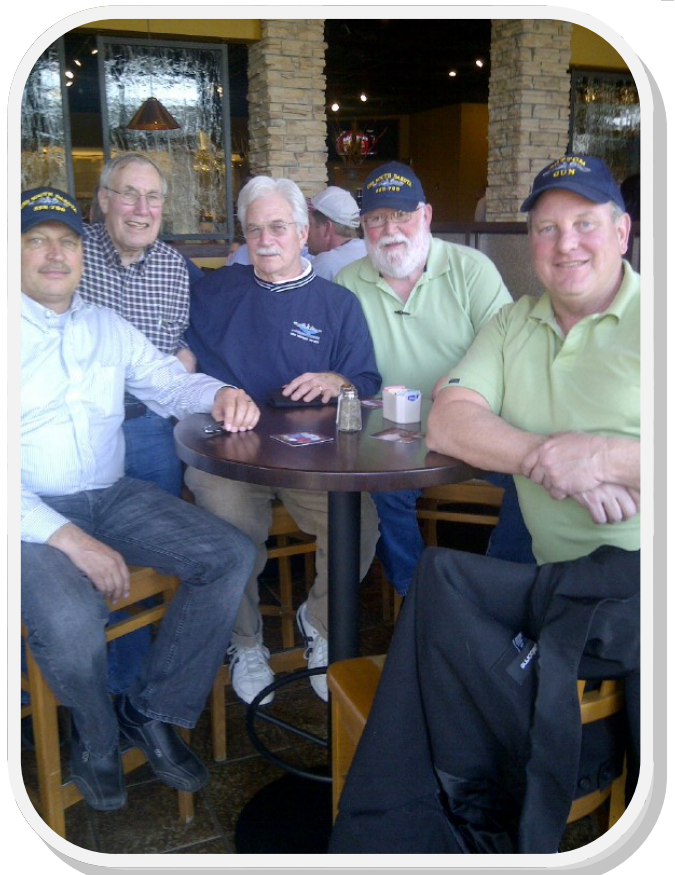


## USS SOUTH DAKOTA

Past and present Base Commanders of Scorpion Base, as well as Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Zimmerman met in Sioux Falls this week to discuss the upcoming meeting of the United States Submarine Veterans Inc. (USSVI) and the United States Submarine Veterans of WW II.

The group will be gathering in Yankton May 11th at the USS Scorpion SS-278 Memorial beginning at noon. The hour long memorial service honors SD WWII Submarine veterans. Lt. Governor Michels will be a keynote speaker. Immediately following the program, a lunch will be served at the Yankton VFW (209 Cedar Street).

The group took time to indulge in some “sub” sandwiches and then spent time discussing USS South Dakota in preparation of the 2017 ship christening.



Secretary Zimmerman, Gerold Davey, Jim Farquhar, Tim Madden and Kent Winter



# Upcoming Events

- Apr. 10—SD Veterans Council Meeting—DAV Headquarters—Sioux Falls—10:30 am  
 Apr. 11—Yankton Career Fair—Regional Technical Education Center—1:00-6:00 pm  
 Apr. 12—Purple Up  
 Apr. 18—Operation Black Hills Cabin Open House—Custer 1:00 pm  
 Apr. 19-21—VABHHCS Women Veterans Retreat—Ft. Meade VA Medical Center  
 Apr. 25—Open House—Aberdeen CBOC—4:00-7:00 pm  
 May 2—Open House—Watertown CBOC—4:00—7:00 pm  
 May 3-5—DAV State Convention—The Lodge—Deadwood  
 May 11—Yellow Ribbon for the 935th—Rapid City  
 May 11—USS Scorpion MS2-278 Memorial Service—Yankton—Noon  
 May 15—Sioux Falls Vets Center Open House—3200 W. 49th Street—11:00 am—2:00 pm.  
 May 19—Yellow Ribbon for the 927th—Sioux Falls  
 May 21—SDDVA Spring Mini Conference—Sturgis Veterans Club (868 Main Street) - 10:00 am  
 May 22—SDDVA Spring Mini Conference—Pierre American Legion (520 S. Pierre Street) - 10:00 am  
 May 23—SDDVA Spring Mini Conference—Brookings City/County Bldg (520 3rd Street) - 10:00 am  
 Jun. 6-9—American Legion State Convention—Ramkota Hotel/Conference Center—Rapid City  
 Jul. 1—Black Hills National Cemetery Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—9:00 am  
 Jul. 26—Korean War Commemoration Display—SDNG Museum—Pierre  
 Jul. 27 Korean War Wreath Laying Ceremony at the SD State Capitol—Pierre  
 Aug. 24-25—Freedom Bird 2013—W. H. Lyon Fairgrounds—Sioux Falls 10:00 am—5:00 pm  
 Oct. 1—Black Hills National Cemetery Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—9:00 am  
 Dec. 15—Wreaths Across America Ceremony—Black Hills National Cemetery—10:00 am



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